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(Information requested.) Rude Pravo.

CZECHOSLOVAK IMPORTS INCREASE

PAN MATERIAL IMPORTS GREATER THAN BEFORE WAR -- Rude Pravo, No 281, 2 Dec 48

The State Statistical Office has ascertained that the import of goods has improved after the bod harvest of last year in the sense that we are importing more raw materials than in 1937, especially those which are required by our heavy industry. In 1937, we imported an average of 1,462,000 quintals of iron per month. In 1947, the monthly average was 100,000 quintals higher, and in October 1948 it reached a level of 1,807,000 quintals.

The average monthly import of metals increased from 65,000 quintals in 1937 to 87,000 quintals this year. The import of rubber has increased 7,000 quintals compared to the prewar average. The import of cotton and wool declined as a result of the poor harvests of last year, for imports of food were thereby increased.

Whereas we imported a monthly average of 28,000 quintals of grain in 1937, the average monthly import this year was 222,000 quintals. At the same time the import of regetable oils increased 7,000 quintals mouthly, and we imported five times as much fish as before World War II.

Today the food situation is better and therefore the import of textile raw materials has increased. The import of wool in October was 2,000 quintals greater than the average for the preceding conths of this year. The import of heep has increased from this year's monthly average of \$,000 quintals to 13,000 quintals in October.

EXCAVATORS FOR FRANCE AND USER -- Rude Pravo, No 292, 15 Dec 48

The Skoda Plants state enterprise in Pilsen has begun to produce excavators of new construction, which have gained great favor in foreign markets on a larger scale. The excavators were destined for domestic use and also for the Soviet Union and the countries of eastern Europe. Now a larger delivery of excevators is being consigned to France.

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